

FAX RECEIVED

MAR 28 2002

GROUP 3700

In the Claims:

1. (amended) A device for invalidating planar [plane] objects, in particular defective security documents [products in the securities sector, such as banknotes and notes of value], by perforating means, the device having a horizontal base plate (9) onto which the objects (14) to be invalidated are placed, and die plates (13, 17, 18) which are vertically movable and parallel to said base plate, and having a drive mechanism by which the die plates can be displaced up and down, wherein the perforating means comprises at least one cutting bushing (23) with a hollow paper [drill] punch (19) interacting with the cutting bushing in order to displace the paper scrap in the paper [drill] punch, wherein the upper ends of the paper punches (19) are open and wherein an exit for the paper scrap is directed upwardly, communicating with a storage cavity in a support (03), the cavity containing the scrap.

2. The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cutting bushing (23) is provided in the base plate (9), and wherein the paper [drill] punch (19) is provided on the die plates (13, 17, 18).

Cancel claim 3, without prejudice.

4. The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the die plates [comprise] include a guide plate (17) [for guiding] having guide surfaces which receive and guide the paper [drill] punch (19)[.] and which support the paper products during punching, thus serving [serves] as a pressing plate for the paper products (14) to be invalidated, a [drill] punch-receiving plate (18), which receives the paper [drill] punches (19), and a pressing plate (13).

5. The device as claimed in claim [3] 1, wherein the die plates [comprise] include a guide plate (17) [for guiding] having guide surfaces which receive and guide the paper [drill] punch (19)[.] and which support the paper products during punching, thus serving

[serves] as a pressing plate for the paper products (14) to be invalidated, a [drill] punch-receiving plate (18), which receives the paper [drill] punches (19), and a pressing plate (13).

6. (non-elected).

7. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to [5] 2, wherein [the] a pressing plate (13) and the receiving plate (18) are connected at least to springs (22).

8. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to [5] 2, wherein stops (16) which limit the upper path of [the] a guide plate (17) in order to pull the paper [drill] punches (19) out of the material being punched (14) are provided on the sides of the device.

Cancel claim 9, without prejudice.

12 (new claim) The device as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 5, wherein stops (16) which limit the upper path of the guide plate (17) in order to pull the paper punches (19) out of the material being punched (14) are provided on the sides of the device.

13. (new claim) The device as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 5, wherein the pressing plate (13) and the receiving plate (18) are connected at least to springs (22).

In the Drawings:

New Figures 1 and 2 are included, showing sidewalls 50 and bottom 52, defining a cavity 56 having an entry port 54 through which scrap enters the cavity. No new matter is added thereby.